

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
-----271748Z 070587 /41

O R 271717Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9971

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 01512

EXDIS

NOFORN

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, EEC' XF

SUBJECT: FOREIGN OFFICE BRIEFING ON JANUARY 25-26

EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING: THE MIDDLE

EAST

1. BASED ON AN ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IN THE  
MIDDLE EAST BY THE WORKING GROUP, THE POLITICAL  
DIRECTORS BELIEVE THAT THE OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS FOR  
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SETTLEMENT ARE MORE PROMISING THAN HAS BEEN THE  
CASE FOR SOME TIME. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE CONSIDERS  
THE MOMENT RIGHT FOR THE NINE TO MAKE CLEAR ITS VIEW  
THAT NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE  
SETTLEMENT SHOULD BEGIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE  
PRESIDENCY WILL MAKE THAT POLITICAL COMMITTEE CON-  
CLUSION KNOWN TO THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WHEN THEY

MEET IN LONDON NEXT WEEK.

2. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WILL ALSO RECOMMEND TO MINISTERS A DRAFT STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH COULD BE PUBLISHED AFTER THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. (THE GERMANS ARE PRESSING FOR THIS BECAUSE OF GENSCHER'S TRIP TO THE AREA.) THAT STATEMENT WOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- THE RECENT EVOLUTION OF EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAS PROVIDED A CLEAR POSSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS;
- IT IS THEREFORE A GOOD MOMENT FOR THE NINE TO EXPRESS THEIR DIRECT INTEREST IN QUICK PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT;
- A CONTINUING SITUATION OF NEITHER WAR NOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WOULD BE DANGEROUS FOR THE SECURITY OF THAT REGION AND THE ENTIRE WORLD.

3. THIS SUGGESTED STATEMENT WOULD GO ON TO SAY THAT THE NINE BELIEVE A "GLOBAL" MIDDLE EAST PEACE AGREEMENT MUST BE BASED ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AS WELL AS THE PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN THE NOVEMBER 6, 1973, STATEMENT BY THE EC. THE LATTER INCLUDED:

- THE INADMISSIBILITY OF ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY BY FORCE;
  - THE REQUIREMENT FOR ISRAEL TO RETURN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORY IT HAS HELD SINCE 1967;
  - THE NEED OF RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF EVERY STATE
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IN THE AREA AND THE RIGHT OF THOSE STATES TO LIVE IN PEACE WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES;

- THE BELIEF THAT SUCH A SETTLEMENT SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

4. IN REFERENCE TO THOSE "RIGHTS," THE NINE'S LANGUAGE WOULD BE BASED ON VAN DER STOEL'S DECEMBER 7 STATEMENT IN NEW YORK. THE EC WOULD AFFIRM ITS VIEW THAT THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO EFFECTIVE EXPRESSION OF THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY SHOULD INCLUDE A TERRITORIAL BASE, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

5. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, THE NINE WOULD STATE ITS BELIEF THAT PEACE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BEGIN URGENTLY, AND NOTE EFFORTS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN RELATION TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 31-62. FINALLY, THE EC WOULD INDICATE THAT IT CONSIDERS THAT REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, INCLUDING THE  
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, SHOULD TAKE PART IN AN APPROPRIATE  
MANNER IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH MUST AIM AT A  
GLOBAL, JUST AND DURABLE SETTLEMENT.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

-----271748Z 070603 /42

O R 271717Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9972

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 01512

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6. AFTER THIS LANGUAGE ON THE PALESTINIANS WAS  
DRAFTED, ONE POLITICAL DIRECTOR INSISTED THAT THE  
WORDS "TO BE DEFINED IN CONSULTATION BETWEEN ALL THE  
INTERESTED PARTIES" SHOULD BE ADDED AND IMMEDIATELY  
FOLLOW "IN APPROPRIATE MANNER." ANOTHER DELEGATION  
DISAGREED AND BOTH VERSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY  
MINISTERS NEXT WEEK. (READERS WILL NOT BE SURPRISED

TO LEARN THAT THE FRENCH DIDN'T LIKE THE  
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QUALIFYING PHRASE WHICH, WE INFER, THE UK ADDED.)

7. IN GIVING US THIS DETAILED ACCOUNT, THE BRITISH  
EMPHASIZED THAT THEY WERE NOT INVITING SPECIFIC  
DRAFTING SUGGESTIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ON THIS TEXT.  
IN FACT, WE WERE ASKED TO MASK THE FACT THAT WE HAD  
BEEN FILLED IN SO COMPREHENSIVELY SINCE "OTHERS"  
AMONG THE NINE WOULD CERTAINLY BE SENSITIVE TO SUCH AN  
INTIMATE WINDOW FOR THE UNITED STATES INTO THIS  
PARTICULAR DISCUSSION.

8. ALTHOUGH WE WERE TOLD THAT THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN  
WASHINGTON MAY FOLLOW UP WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON THIS  
POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST, IT,  
WE WERE INFORMED, WILL NOT RECEIVE THE SPECIFIC BLOW-BY-  
BLOW ACCOUNT CONTAINED HERE. THEREFORE, WE REQUEST THAT  
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AVOID REVEALING TO UK CONTACTS  
KNOWLEDGE OF THE ABOVE DETAIL.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009